

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please amend the claims, as follows:

Claims 1-39 (canceled).

40. (new) A flexible mold, the flexible mold comprising:

a flexible tray suited for containing food, including confectionery and bread-making made of a silicone material, the flexible tray having a bottom wall, a side wall extending upwardly from the bottom wall and an edge projecting outwardly from said side wall, the side wall having an inner face and an outer face; and

stiffening means comprising a frame, the frame being held in a seat of the flexible tray and stiffening the projecting edge where said frame is held against deformation under strain, wherein, the inner face and outer face of the side wall are substantially rectilinear, so that said side wall has a substantially constant thickness, and outwardly, the projecting edge has an outer part extending downwardly and overlapping only a part of the frame, defining a seat opening at a lower surface of the projecting edge between said edge and the side wall for inserting the frame in the seat.

41. (new) A flexible mold for food, including confectionery and bread-making, the flexible mold comprising:

a flexible tray made of a silicone material, the flexible tray having a bottom wall, a side wall extending upwardly from the bottom wall and an upper edge projecting outwardly from said side wall, the side wall having an inner face, an outer face and a section between the inner face and outer face; and

stiffening means comprising a frame, the frame being held in a seat of the flexible tray to stiffen the projecting edge and preventing deformation of the tray under

strain where said frame is held; wherein, along said extension of the side wall between the bottom wall and the outwardly projecting edge, the section of said side wall is substantially rectilinear, so that the side wall has a substantially constant thickness, the outwardly projecting edge has an outer part extending downwardly and overlapping only a part of the stiffening frame disposed in said seat, defining a seat opening at a lower surface of the projecting edge for inserting the frame in the seat, the side wall and bottom wall of the tray define a truncated cone tray, and the flexibility of the tray, together with the dimensions of the stiffening frame and the rectilinearity of the side wall section, permit flattening the flexible tray to take food previously deposited within the mold out of the flexible tray.

42. (new) The flexible mold of claim 51, wherein the seat and the stiffening frame each have a rectangular cross section.

43. (new) The flexible mold of claim 50, wherein between the outwardly projecting edge and the bottom wall, the tray has a conical section.